



## LETTER of RECOGNITION

### **David Starkey** **Poet Laureate for the City of Santa Barbara**

*WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara is widely recognized as an arts center, providing a spiritual home for creative activity, and for writers in particular; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Santa Barbara commissioned the Poet Laureate Review Committee of the City Arts Advisory Committee to nominate a Poet Laureate in order to direct proper attention and honor to the spoken word by utilizing poetry to celebrate and elevate community events; and*

*WHEREAS, the Committee selected David Starkey, who nurtures future generations of poets and writers as Director of the Creative Writing Program at Santa Barbara City College and has written two textbooks on poetry including Creative Writing: Four Genres in Brief (Bedford/St. Martin's, 2008) and Poetry Writing: Theme and Variations (McGraw-Hill, 1999); and*

*WHEREAS, David has published more than 400 poems in the last 20 years and has works included in many discerning literary journals. Collections of his poetry include Starkey's Book of States (Boson Books, 2007), Adventures of the Minor Poet (Artamo Press, 2007), Ways of Being Dead: New and Selected Poems (Artamo, 2006), David Starkey's Greatest Hits (Pudding House, 2002) and Fear of Everything, winner of Palanquin Press's Spring 2000 chapbook contest.*

*WHEREAS, David has inspired audiences throughout the community with his thoughtful public recitations and poetry writing workshops for the Santa Barbara Writers Conference; and who, as host of SB Channel's "Creative Community," has added greatly to the history and cultural life of Santa Barbara;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby bestow upon DAVID STARKEY the honor of serving as the City's Poet Laureate for a two-year term commencing April 1, 2009.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 7th day of April, 2009.*

*Marty Blum*  
MARTY BLUM, MAYOR

